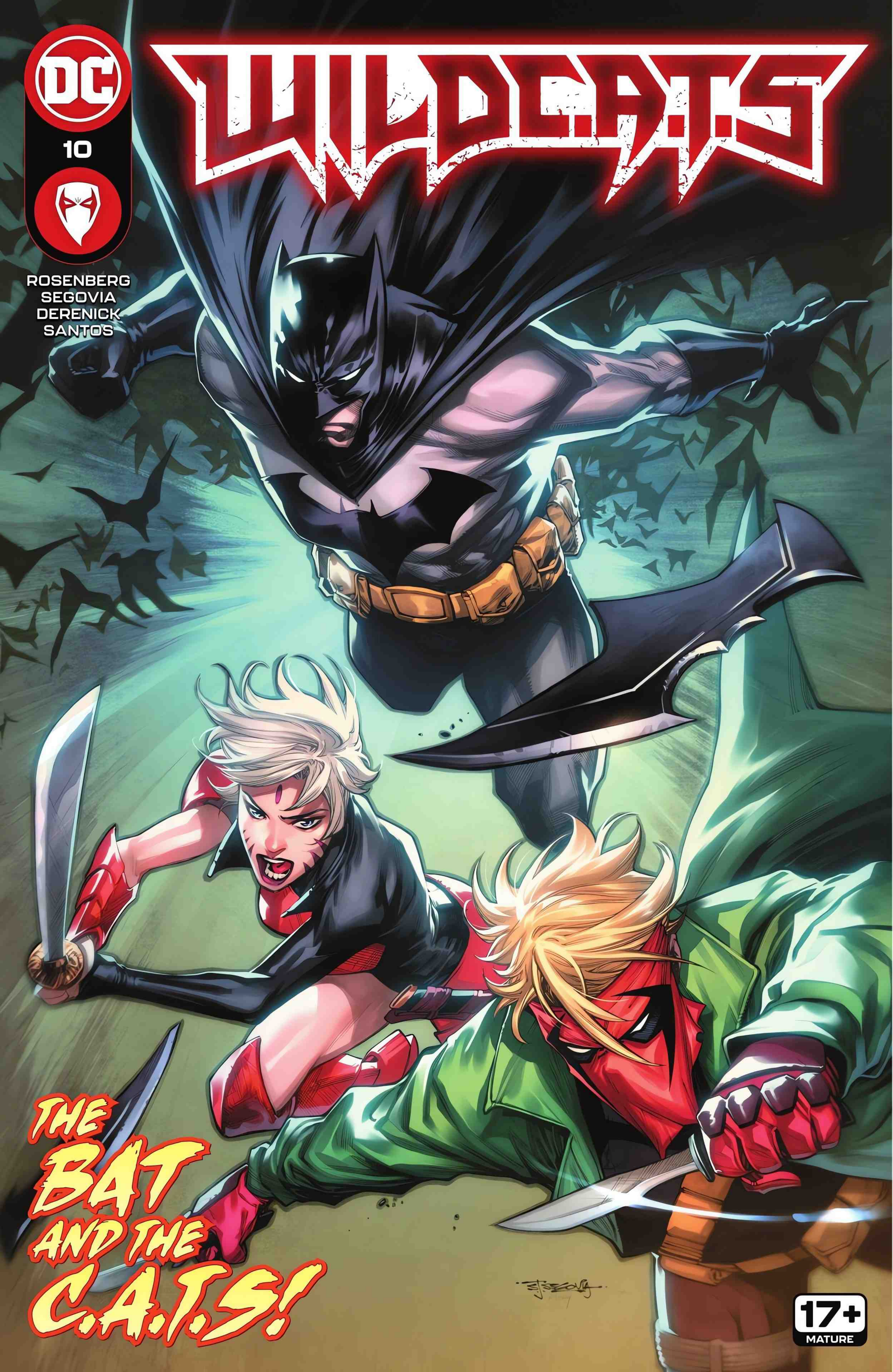




ROSENBERG
SEGOVIA
DERENICK
SANTOS

WILDCATS



THE
BAT
AND THE
CATS!

17+
MATURE

DISCOVER HOW THE DARK KNIGHT MET THE MAN OF STEEL!

BATMAN • SUPERMAN
**WORLD'S
FINEST** #18



© & ™ DC



AUGUST

WRITTEN BY
MARK WAID

ART BY
TRAVIS MOORE

MAIN COVER BY DAN MORA

Weeks Ago.
Eastern Europe.

ENCORE

MATTHEW
ROSENBERG
writer

STEPHEN SEGOVIA
& TOM DERENICK
artists

ELMER
SANTOS
colorist
FERRAN
DELGADO
letterer

WE THANK
YOU FOR YOUR
COOPERATION,
MR. PRESIDENT.



THANK YOU, MR.
PEACEMAKER. I AM LOOKING
FORWARD TO THE UNITED
STATES' INCREASED
INVOLVEMENT IN--

WHOA. SORRY IF I WAS UNCLEAR.
THIS U.S. GOVERNMENT IS NOT
OFFICIALLY INVOLVED IN THIS
DEAL. BUT MY BOSS HAS
PROMISED TO PUT DOWN
THIS LITTLE COUP
FOR YOU.

WHAT?!
HOW CAN
SHE--



GREETINGS, MR.
PRESIDENT. MY EMPLOYER
ASKED ME TO COME SPEAK
WITH YOU AFTER WE DID NOT
RECEIVE A RESPONSE TO
OUR LAST OFFER.





DEAL'S OFF, MAN. YOU'RE TOO LATE. TELL YOUR CREEPY BOSS TO SHOVE IT.



IS THIS A JOKE?

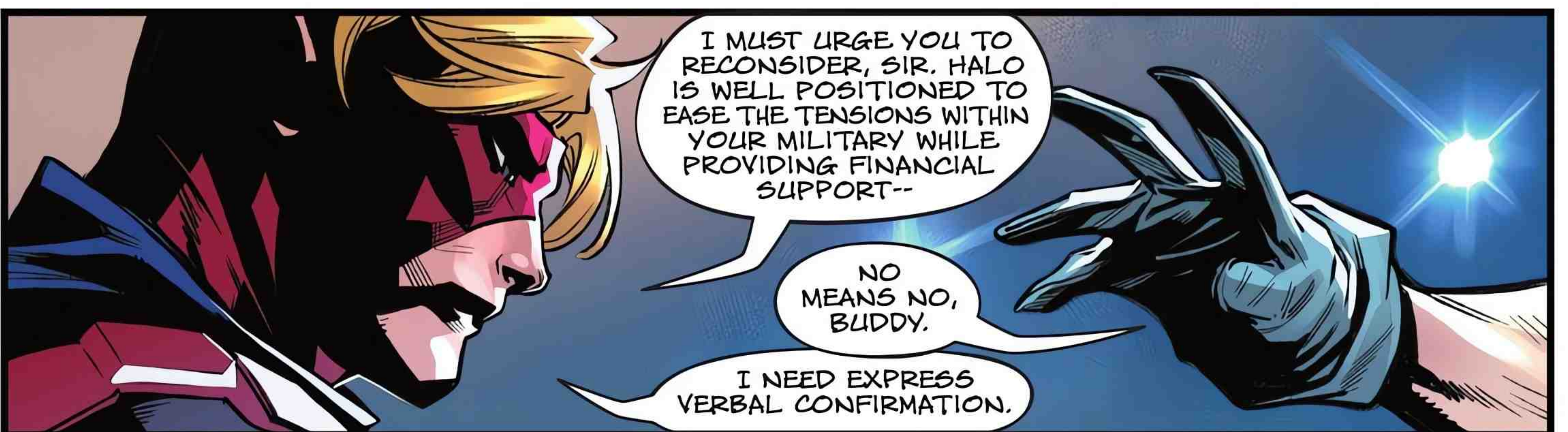
MR. PRESIDENT, I ASSURE YOU, THE HALO CORPORATION...

...IS PREPARED TO MAKE AN OFFER ON THESE METEOR FRAGMENTS THAT WILL BE FAR MORE **BENEFICIAL** FOR YOU AND YOUR GREAT NATION THAN ANYTHING YOU WILL RECEIVE FROM OTHER PARTIES.



I DON'T NEED YOUR MONEY. I NEED PROTECTION. GENERAL KORYSOVA AND HIS MEN ARE COMING FOR ME. THIS AMANDA WALL--

WHOA! YOU DON'T NEED TO LET HIM SEE UP YOUR SKIRT THERE, TOMÁŠ. YOU ALREADY GOT A DATE FOR THE PROM. IT'S DONE.



I MUST URGE YOU TO RECONSIDER, SIR. HALO IS WELL POSITIONED TO EASE THE TENSIONS WITHIN YOUR MILITARY WHILE PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT--

NO MEANS NO, BUDDY.

I NEED EXPRESS VERBAL CONFIRMATION.

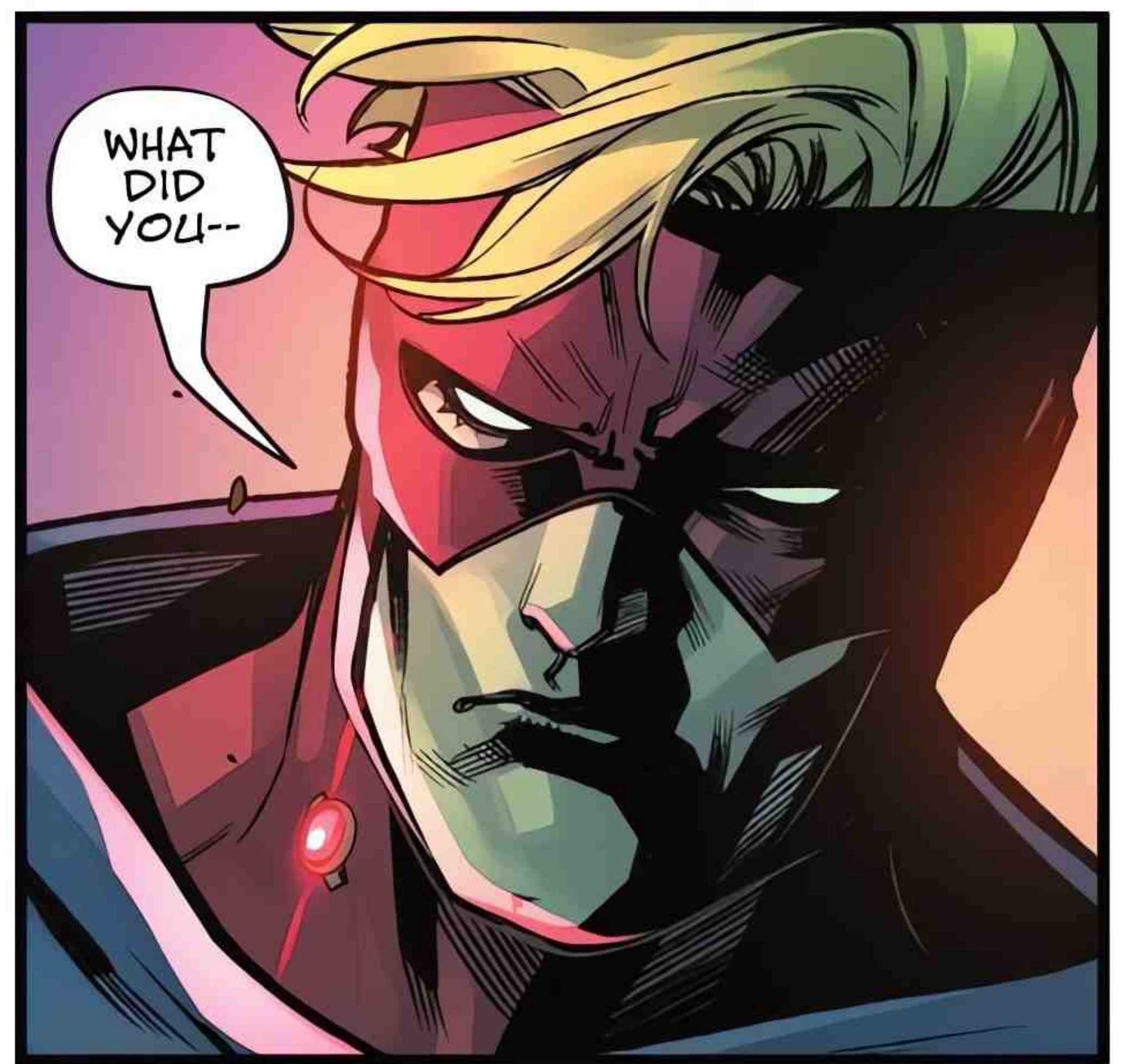


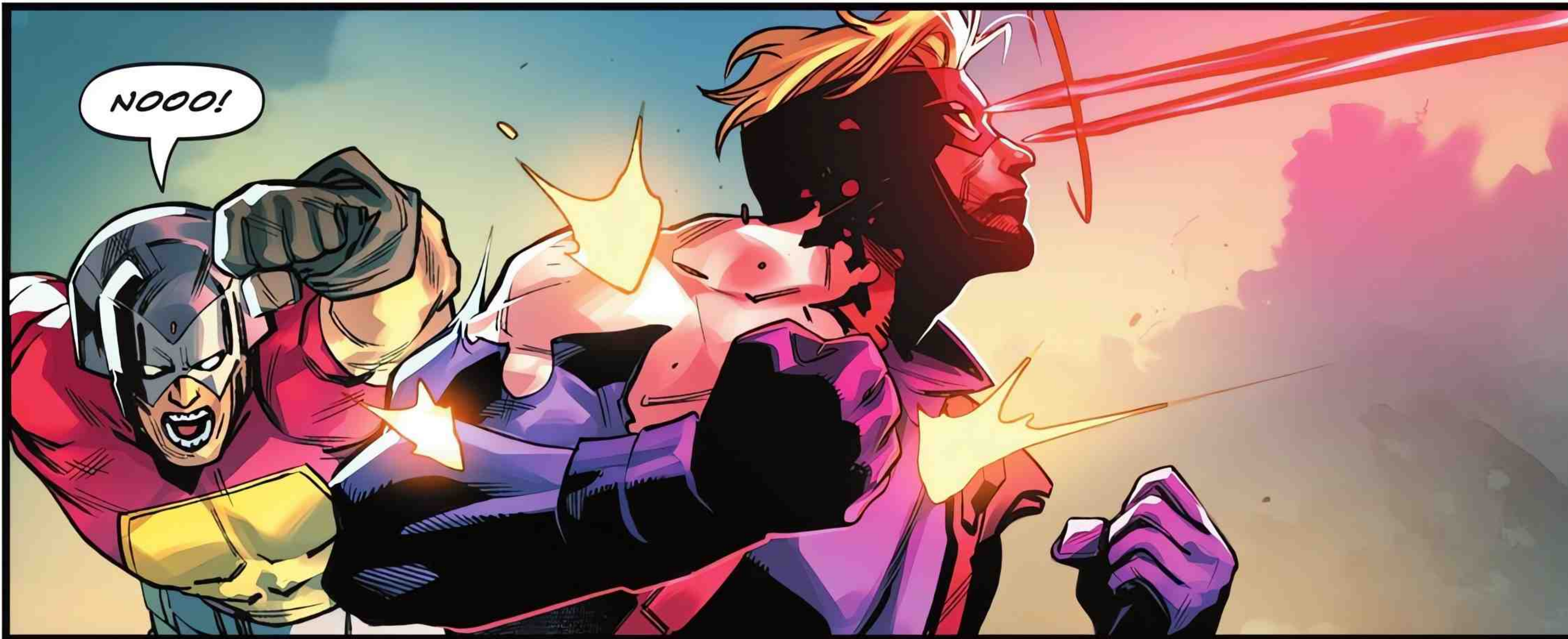
HOW'S THIS?!

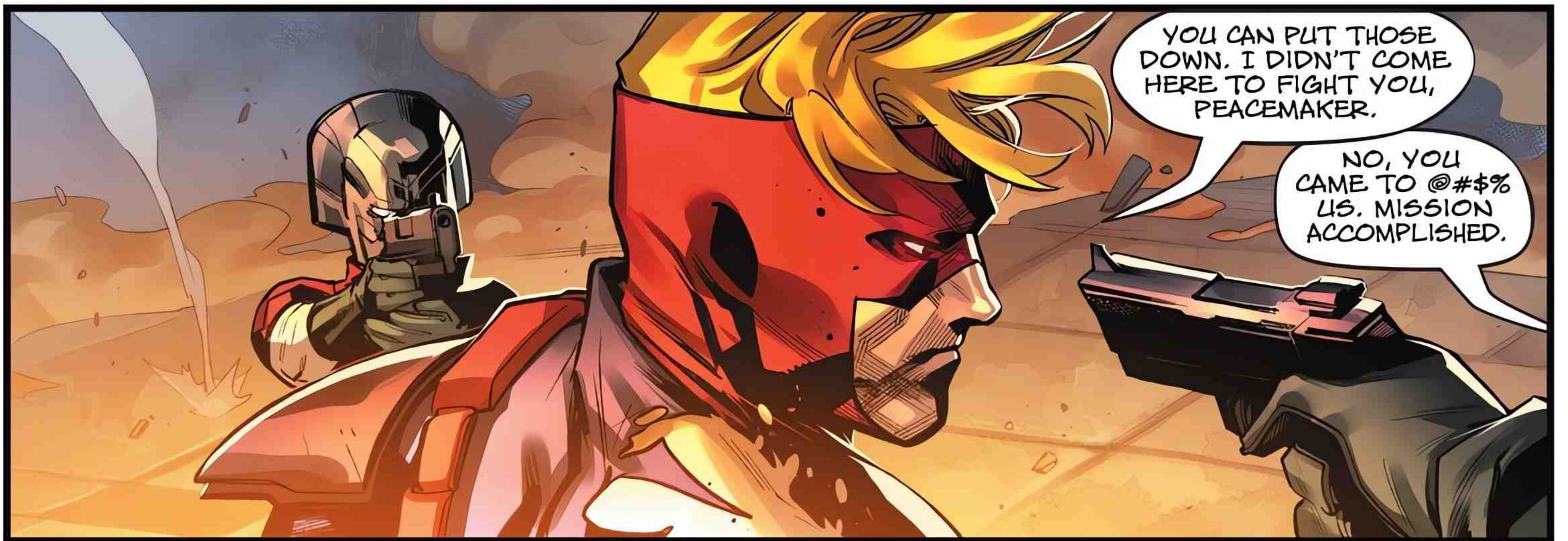
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?!

MR. PRESIDENT, LET HALO HELP YOU.



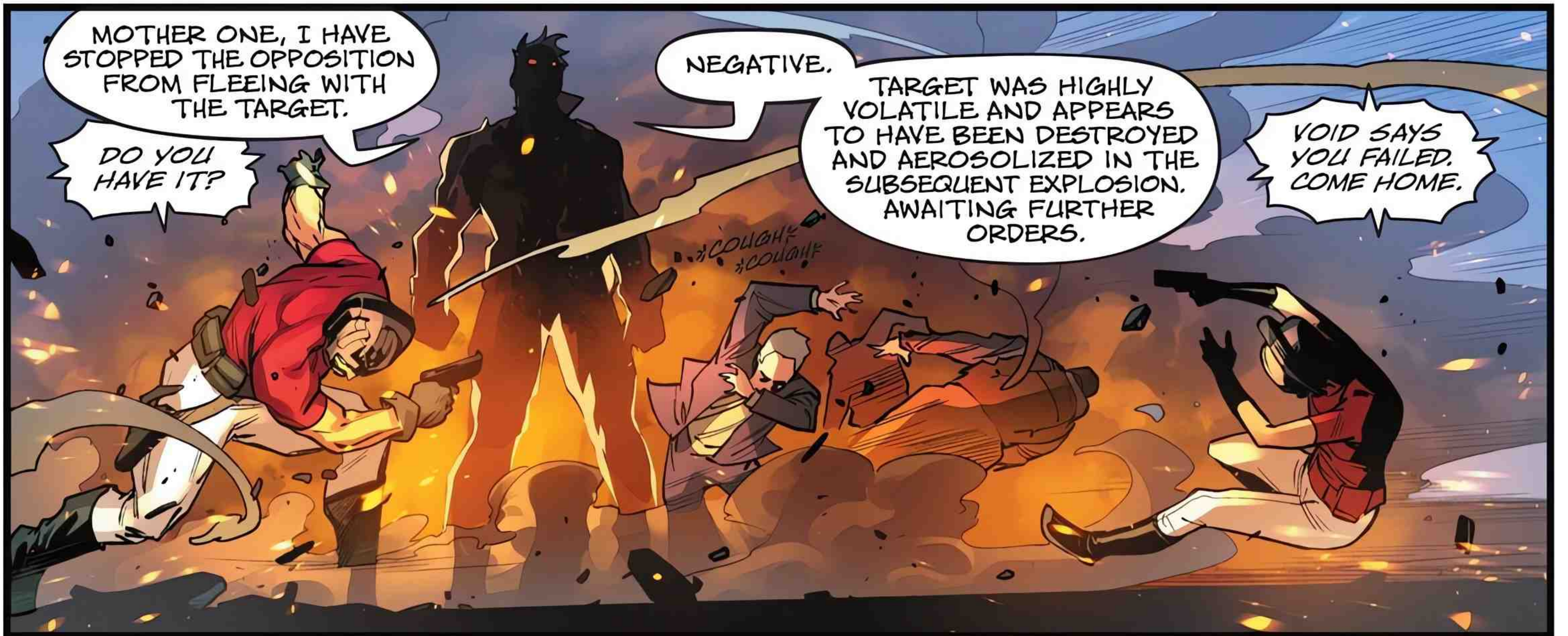






YOU CAN PUT THOSE DOWN. I DIDN'T COME HERE TO FIGHT YOU, PEACEMAKER.

NO, YOU CAME TO @#\$% US. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.



MOTHER ONE, I HAVE STOPPED THE OPPOSITION FROM FLEEING WITH THE TARGET.

DO YOU HAVE IT?

NEGATIVE.

TARGET WAS HIGHLY VOLATILE AND APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED AND AEROSOLIZED IN THE SUBSEQUENT EXPLOSION. AWAITING FURTHER ORDERS.

VOID SAYS YOU FAILED. COME HOME.



I NEED A TELEPORT.

THE DUST CLOUD IS CAUSING INTERFERENCE. SHE CAN'T GET YOU. GET YOURSELF HOME, ROBOT.

MY INTERNAL GYROSCOPE WAS DAMAGED. I AM UNABLE TO FLY.

BETTER START WALKING.



WHAT DID YOU DO?! WHAT IS YOUR PLAN NOW?!

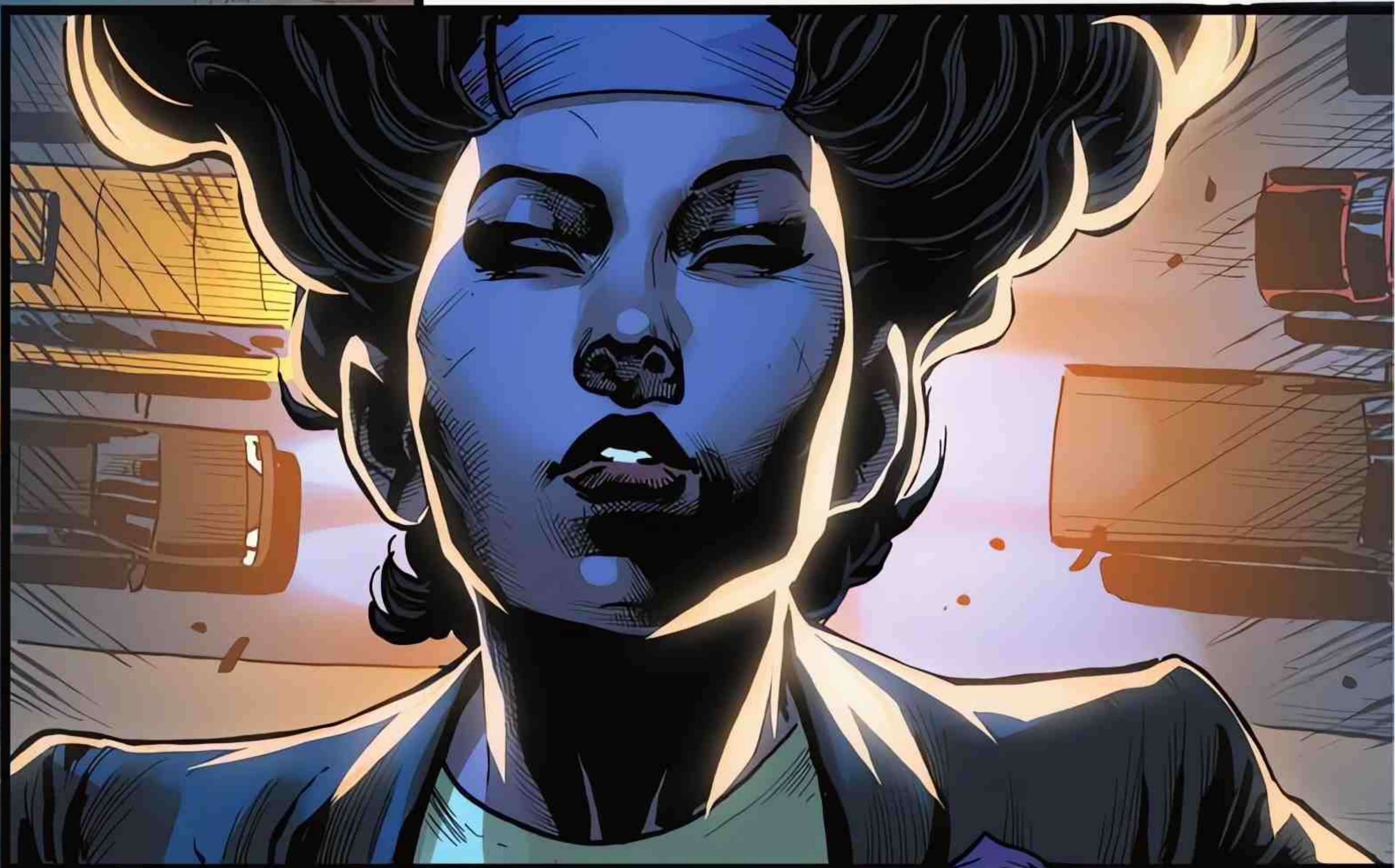
OUR OFFER IS RESCINDED.



WHAT ABOUT THE COUP? THEY ARE COMING FOR ME!

HALO WILL BE HAPPY TO DO BUSINESS WITH WHICHEVER SIDE PREVAILS.

Outside the
HALO Building.
Now.





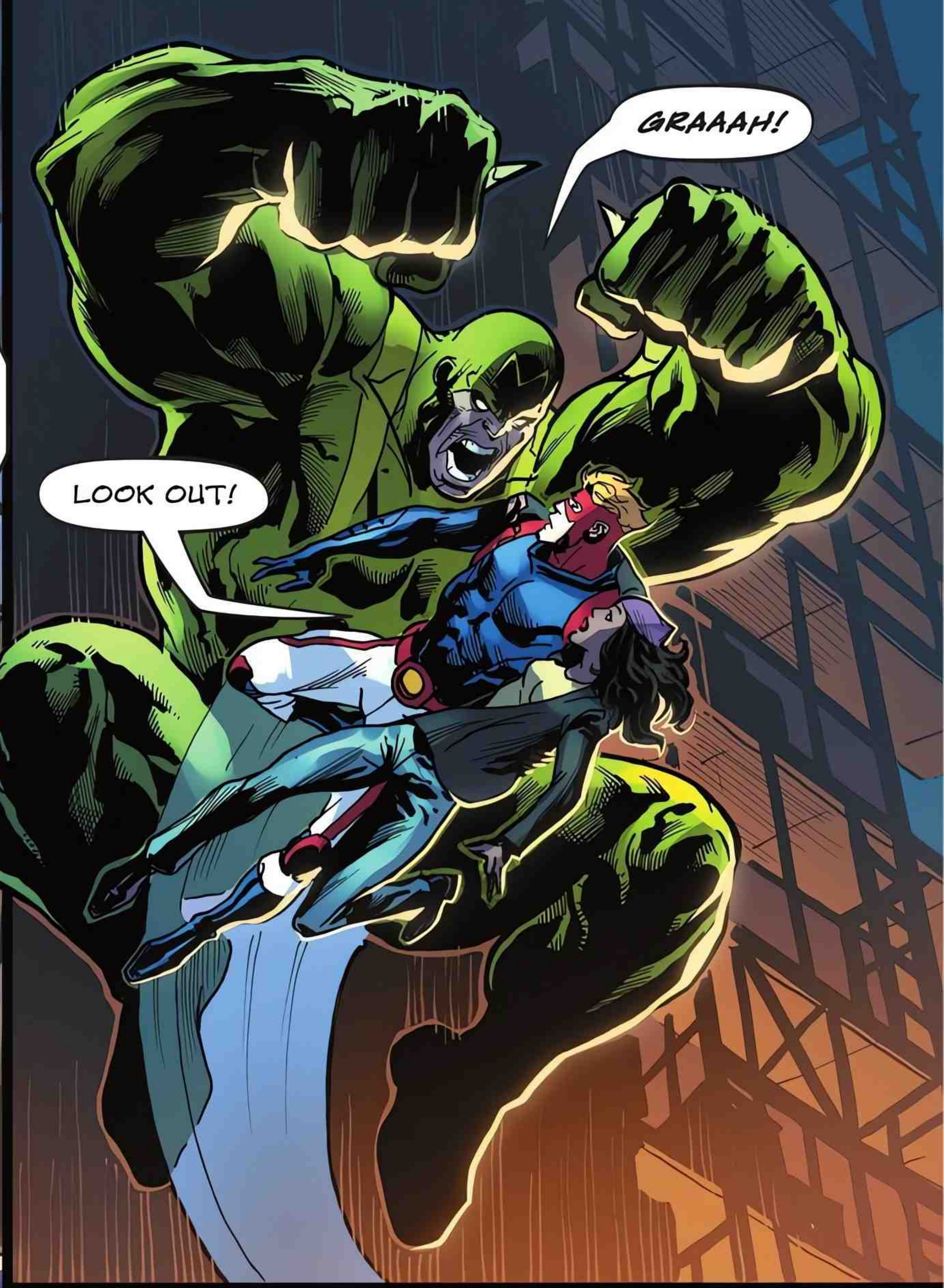
WHERE ARE WE GOING?

I FIGURED WHILE I'M HERE, I MIGHT AS WELL SAY WHAT'S UP TO MARLOWE, HALLIDAY, AND THE REST OF THEIR CREW.



MARLOWE ISN'T WITH THEM! THEY TURNED ON HIM LIKE THEY'RE TURNING ON ALL OF US. WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.

NOT HOW I WORK, LADY. I SEE THE WAY TO END OUR PROBLEMS, I'M GONNA TAKE--



GRAAAH!

LOOK OUT!



GET OFF! YOU'RE GOING TO KILL US ALL!

MALL DOESN'T CARE!

Across Town.

IS THIS A
@#*&?!&
JOKE?

REAL DISCREET
HERE, SPY GUY.

WHO IS GOING
TO LOOK FOR
THREE LOWLIFES
LIKE YOU IN
HERE?

...I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I'VE
BEEN KICKED OUTTA MORE LIMOS
THAN YOU'VE EVER BEEN IN.

WHERE YOU TAKING
US, ANYWAY?

I HAVE A PLACE
I THINK YOU'LL
LIKE, CAITLIN.
NOW GET IN.

MARLOWE?!
HAVE YOU LOST
YOUR @#&%?*&
MIND?

NO MORE
THAN USUAL,
MAXINE.

WAY I SEE IT, YOU'VE
GOT A HALO PROBLEM. NOW
I'VE GOT A HALO PROBLEM.
THAT MAKES US FRIENDS.

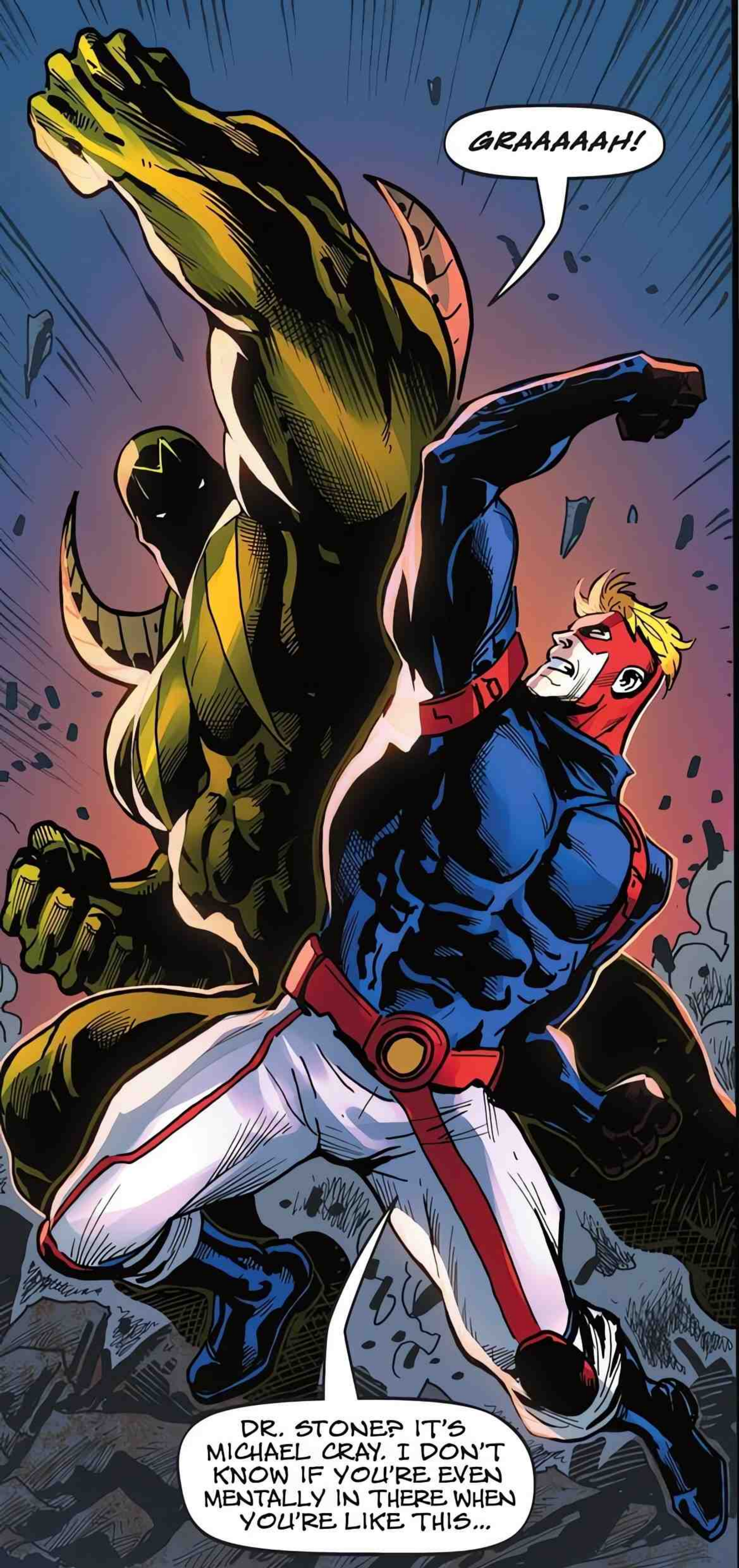
AND IF THAT'S NOT
ENOUGH TO SMOOTH
THINGS OVER, I'VE GOT
REALLY EXPENSIVE
DRINKS.

WORKS
FOR ME.

I DON'T
DRINK.

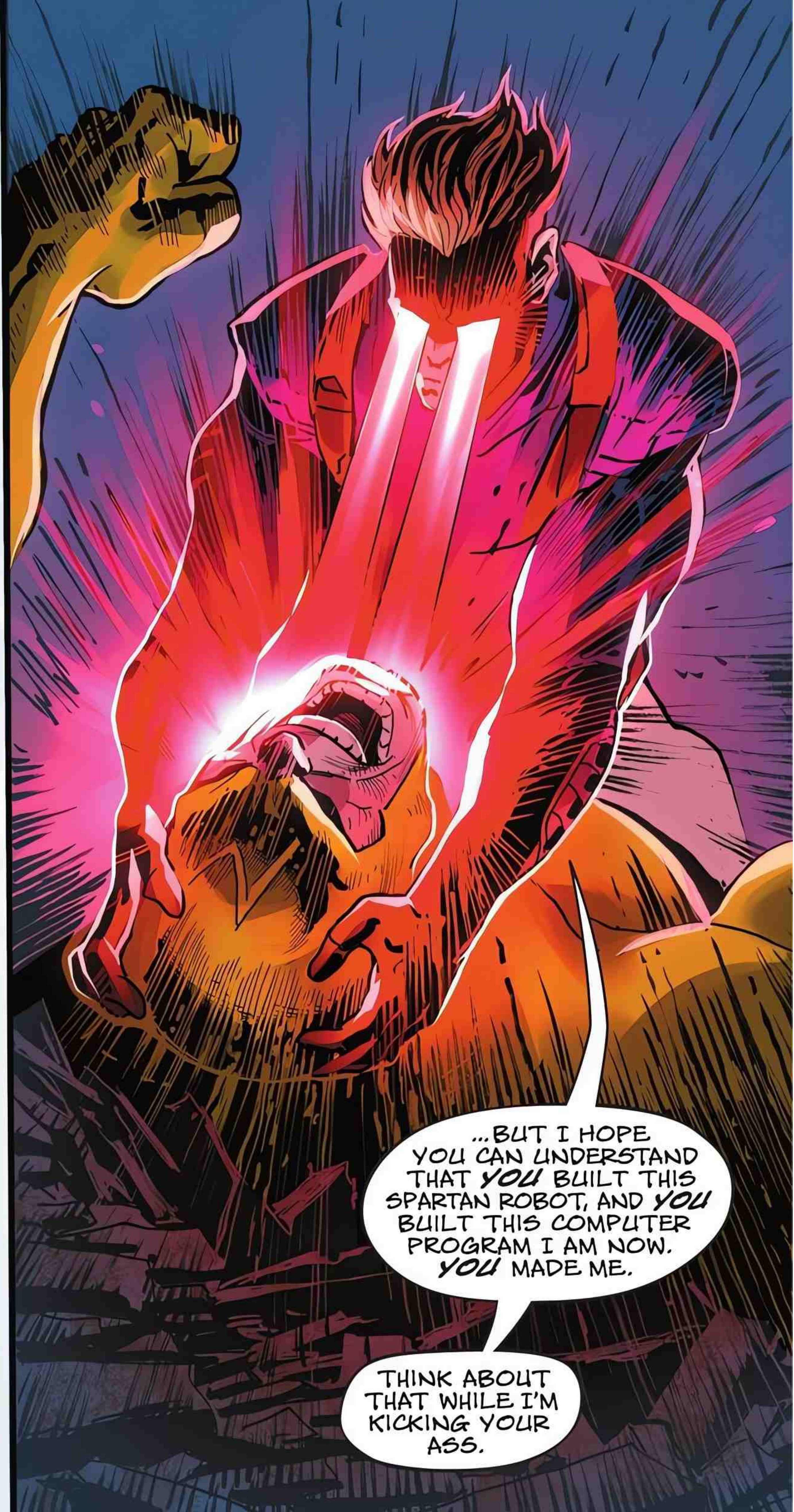
I'M
TWELVE,
DUDE.





GRAAAAAH!

DR. STONE? IT'S
MICHAEL CRAY. I DON'T
KNOW IF YOU'RE EVEN
MENTALLY IN THERE WHEN
YOU'RE LIKE THIS...



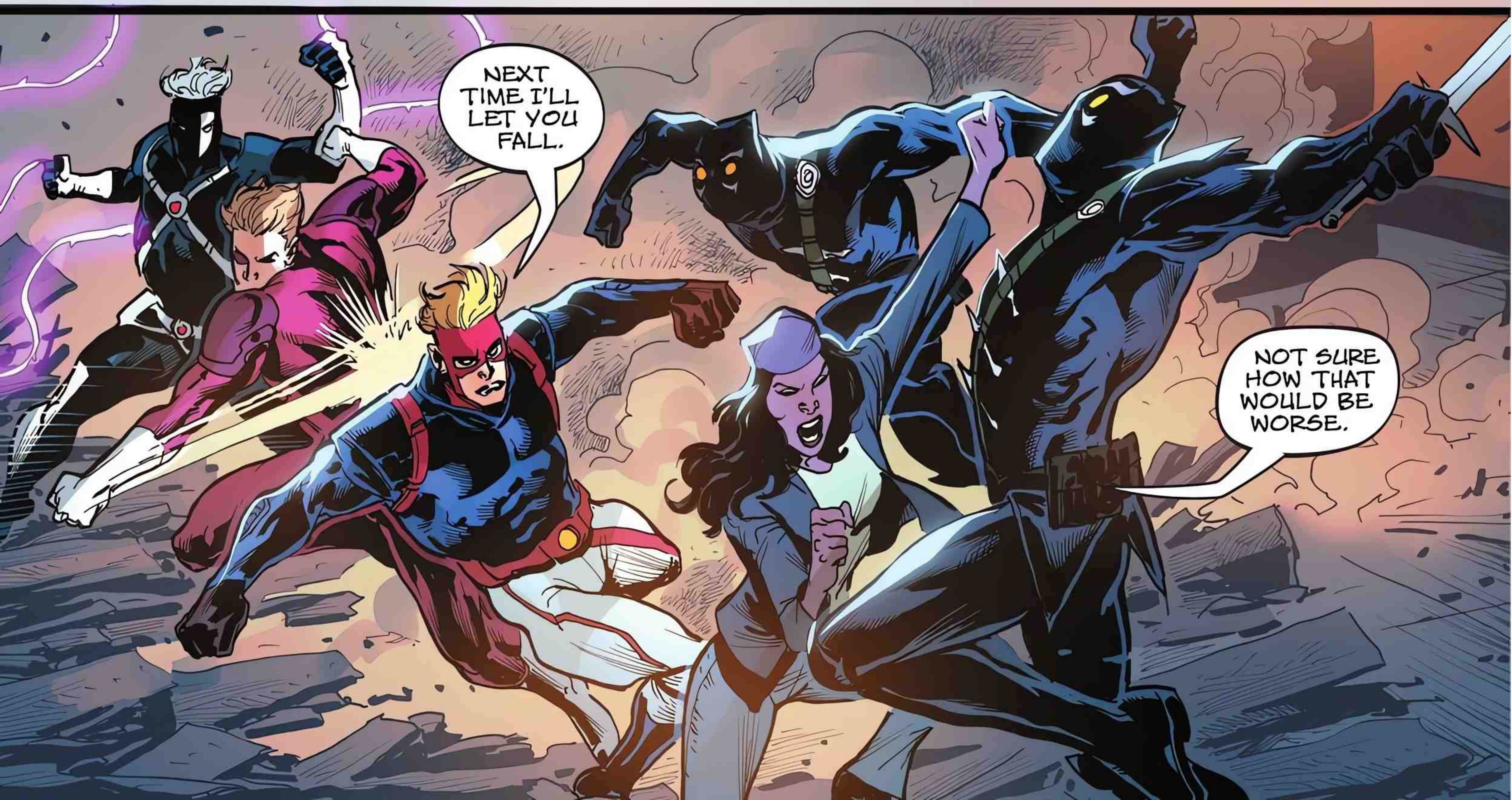
...BUT I HOPE
YOU CAN UNDERSTAND
THAT **YOU** BUILT THIS
SPARTAN ROBOT, AND **YOU**
BUILT THIS COMPUTER
PROGRAM I AM NOW.
YOU MADE ME.

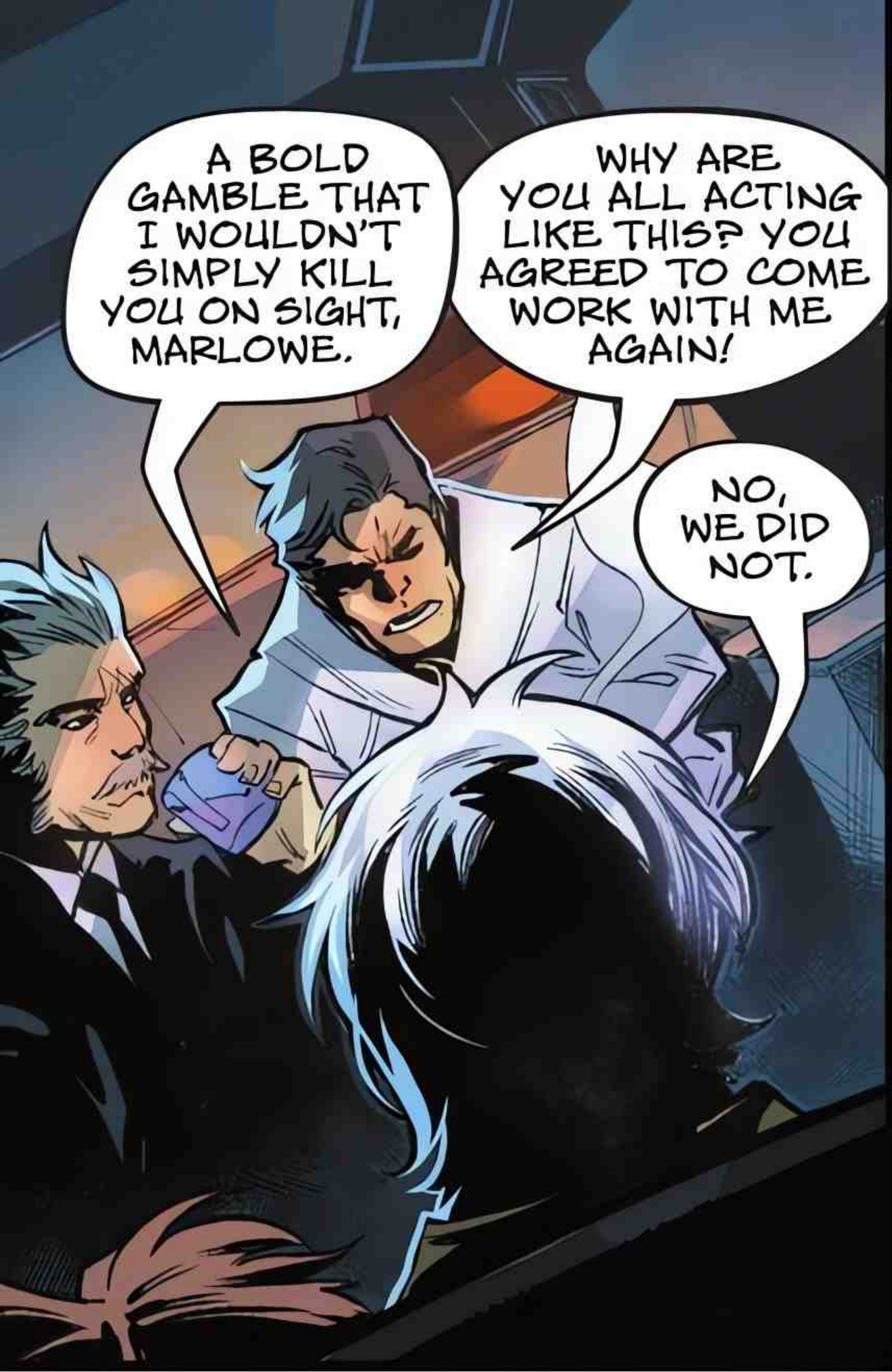
THINK ABOUT
THAT WHILE I'M
KICKING YOUR
ASS.



LOOK AT THIS.
OUR MISSING
ROBOT HAS COME
TO DIE ALONGSIDE
OUR MISSING
SECRETARY.

OH
#@!\$.





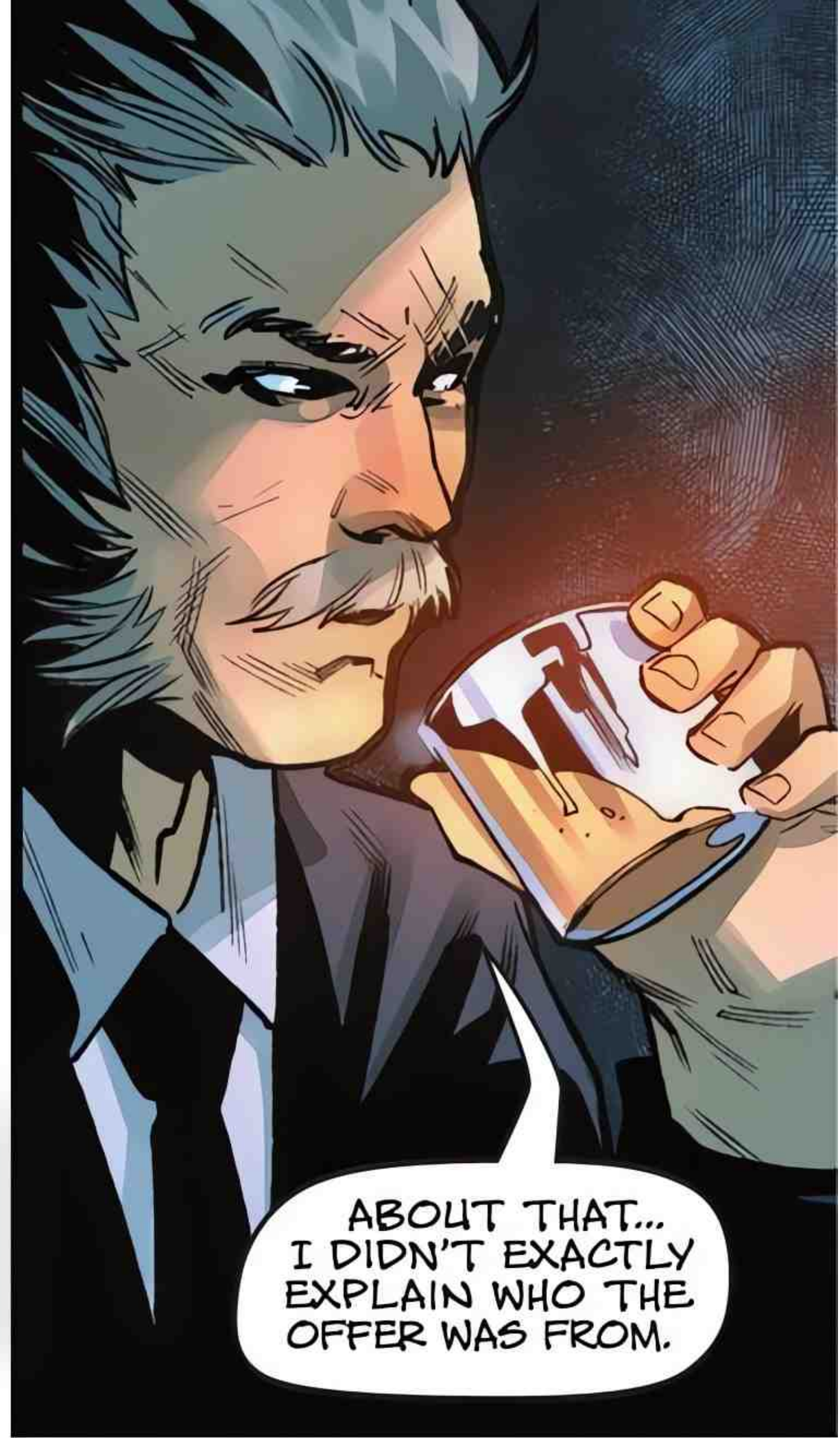
A BOLD GAMBLE THAT I WOULDN'T SIMPLY KILL YOU ON SIGHT, MARLOWE.

WHY ARE YOU ALL ACTING LIKE THIS? YOU AGREED TO COME WORK WITH ME AGAIN!

NO, WE DID NOT.



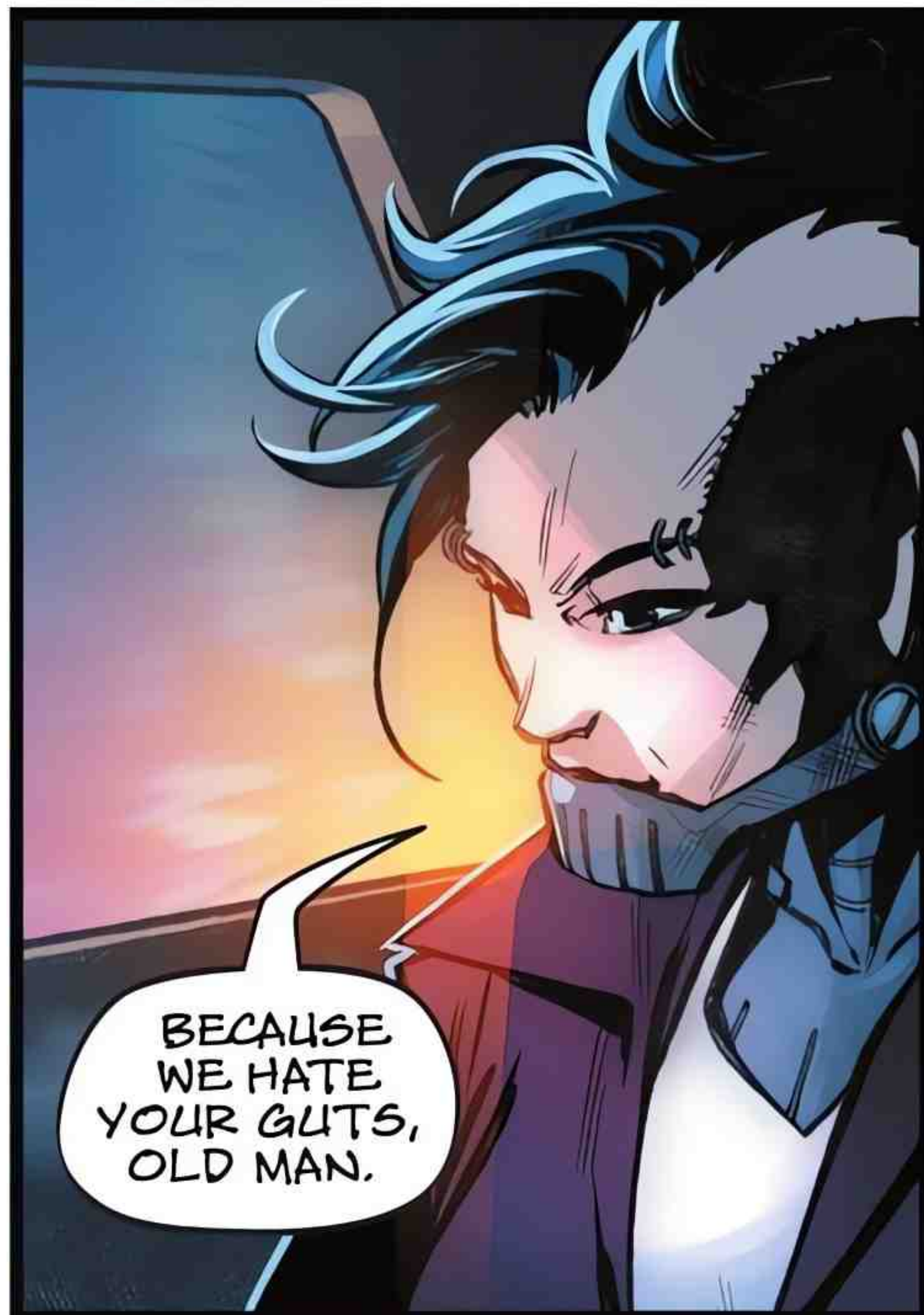
AM I TAKING CRAZY PILLS HERE? LYNCH EXPLICITLY JUST MADE YOU MY OFFER! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE!



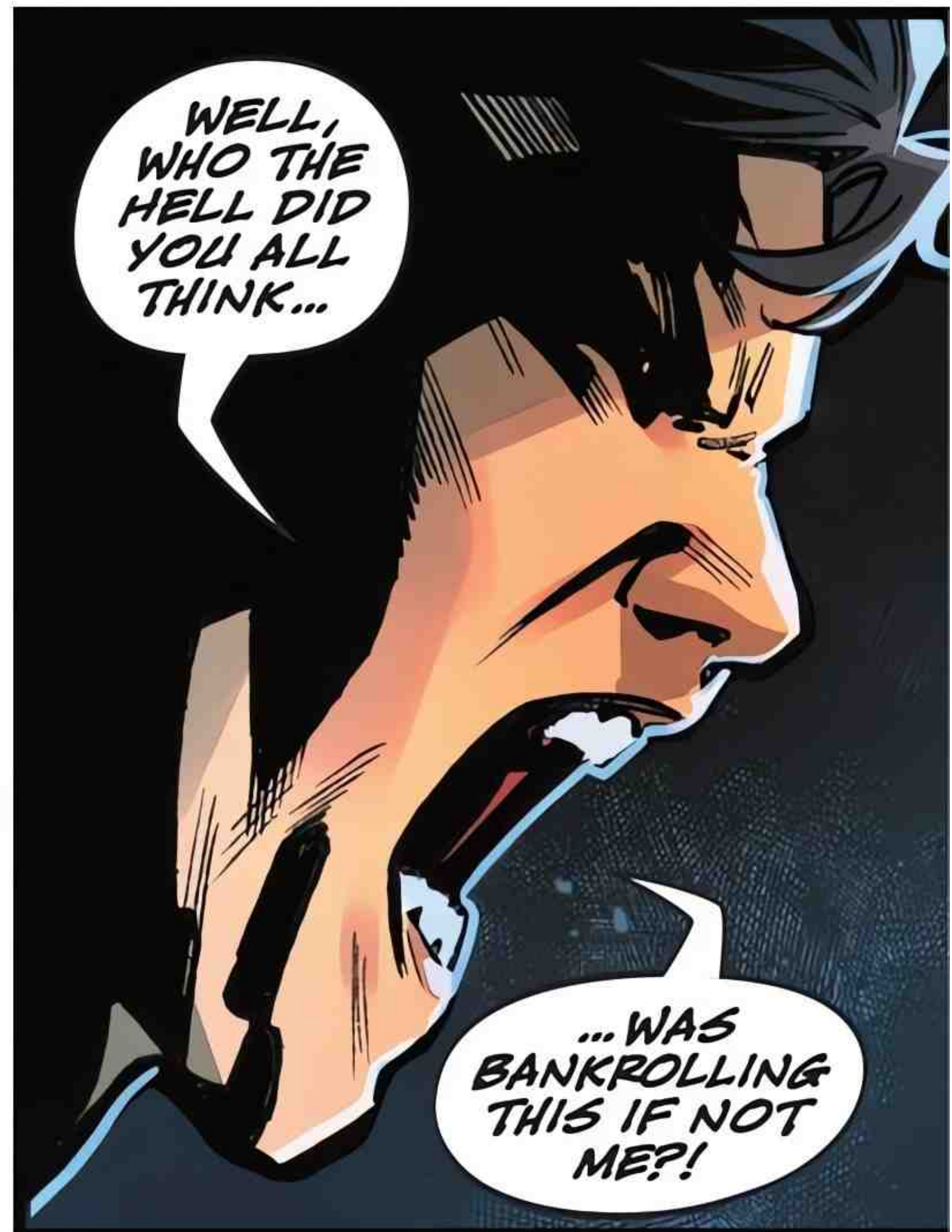
ABOUT THAT... I DIDN'T EXACTLY EXPLAIN WHO THE OFFER WAS FROM.



WHY THE @#?% NOT?!

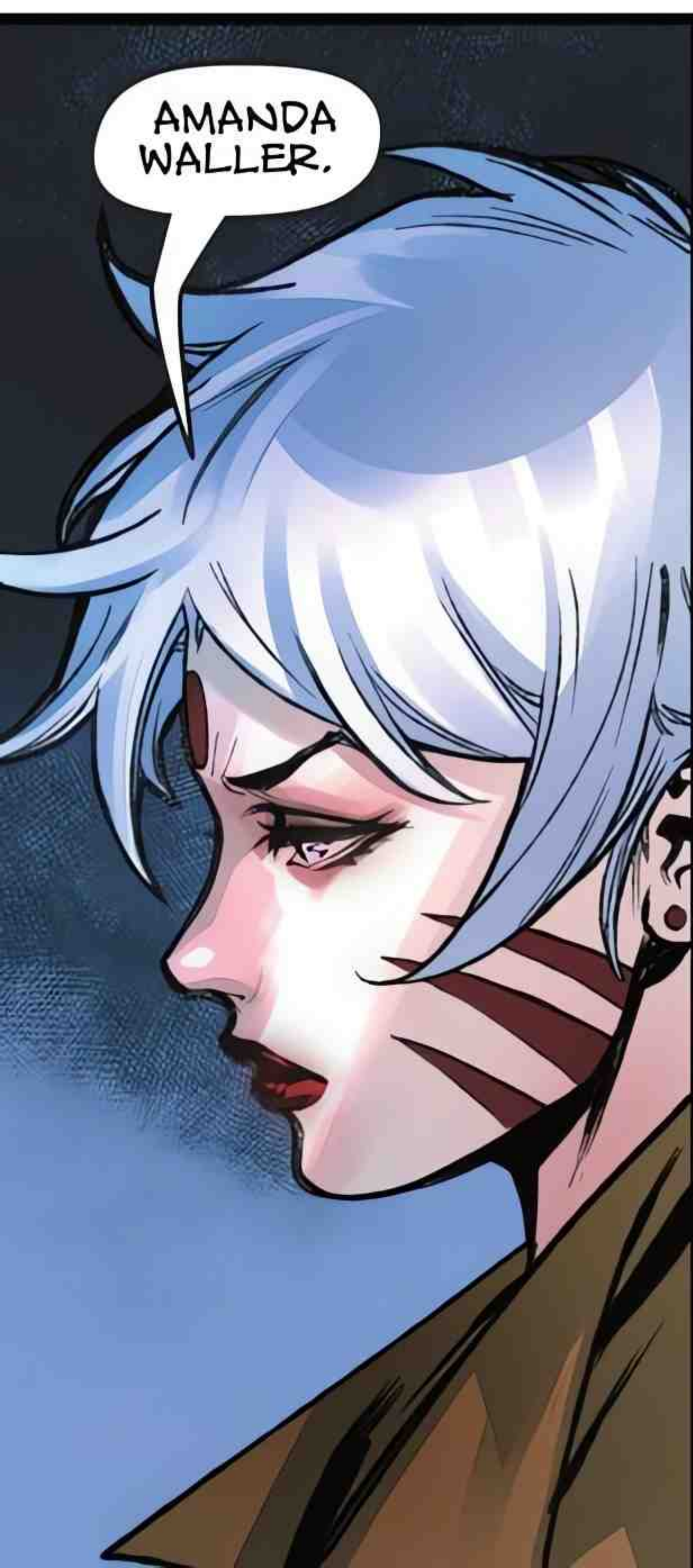


BECAUSE WE HATE YOUR GUTS, OLD MAN.

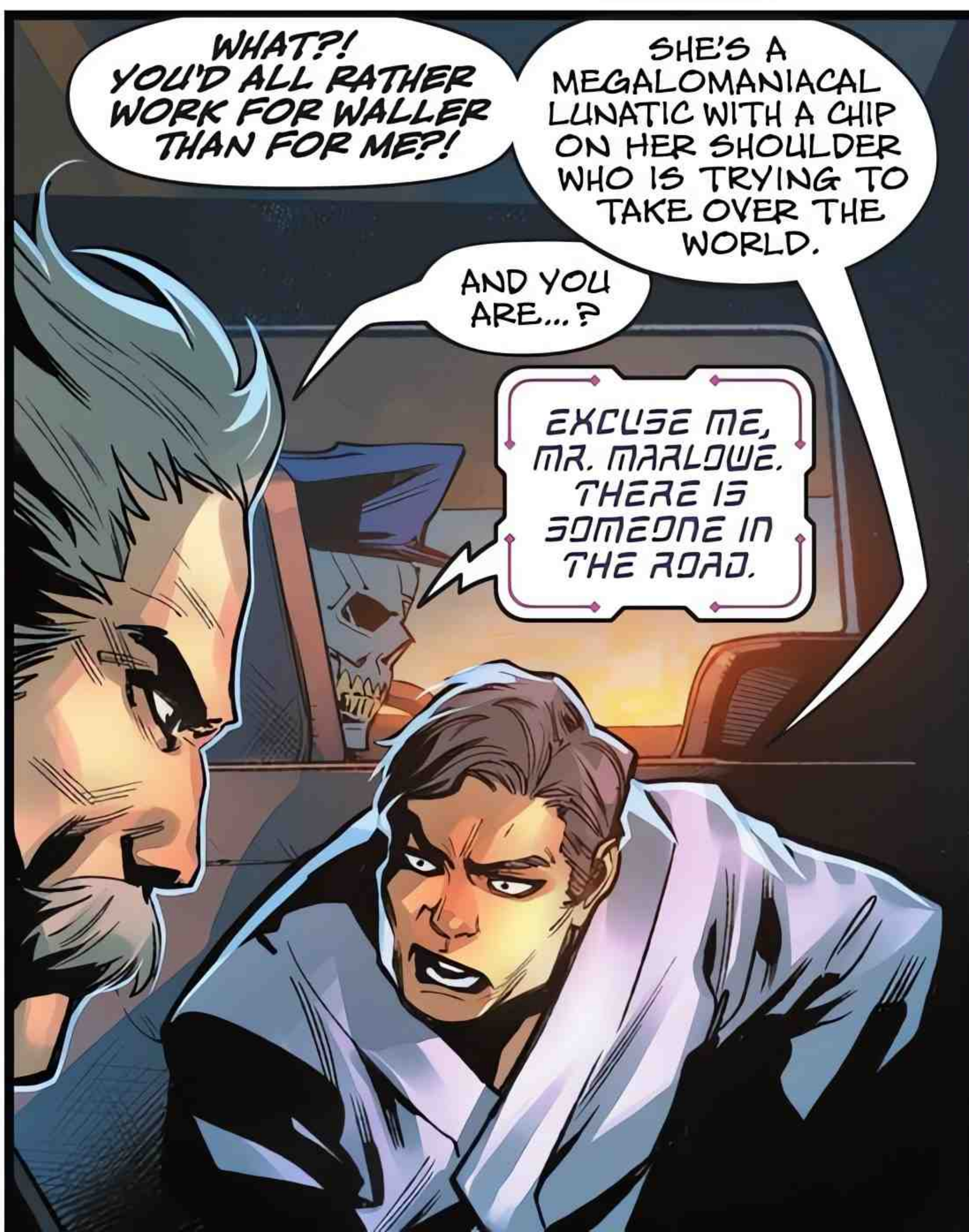


WELL, WHO THE HELL DID YOU ALL THINK...

... WAS BANKROLLING THIS IF NOT ME?!



AMANDA WALLER.



WHAT?! YOU'D ALL RATHER WORK FOR WALLER THAN FOR ME?!

SHE'S A MEGALOMANIACAL LUNATIC WITH A CHIP ON HER SHOULDER WHO IS TRYING TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD.

AND YOU ARE... ?

EXCUSE ME, MR. MARLOWE. THERE IS SOMEONE IN THE ROAD.



SO HONK THE \$#@*%& HORN--

SHUNK!





DANG.
I WAS SURE
THE "WE JUST
WANT TO TALK"
LINE WAS GOING
TO WORK.

IT MIGHT
HAVE IF BATMAN
HADN'T MADE IT
SEEM LIKE WE
WERE GOING
TO MURDER
THEM.



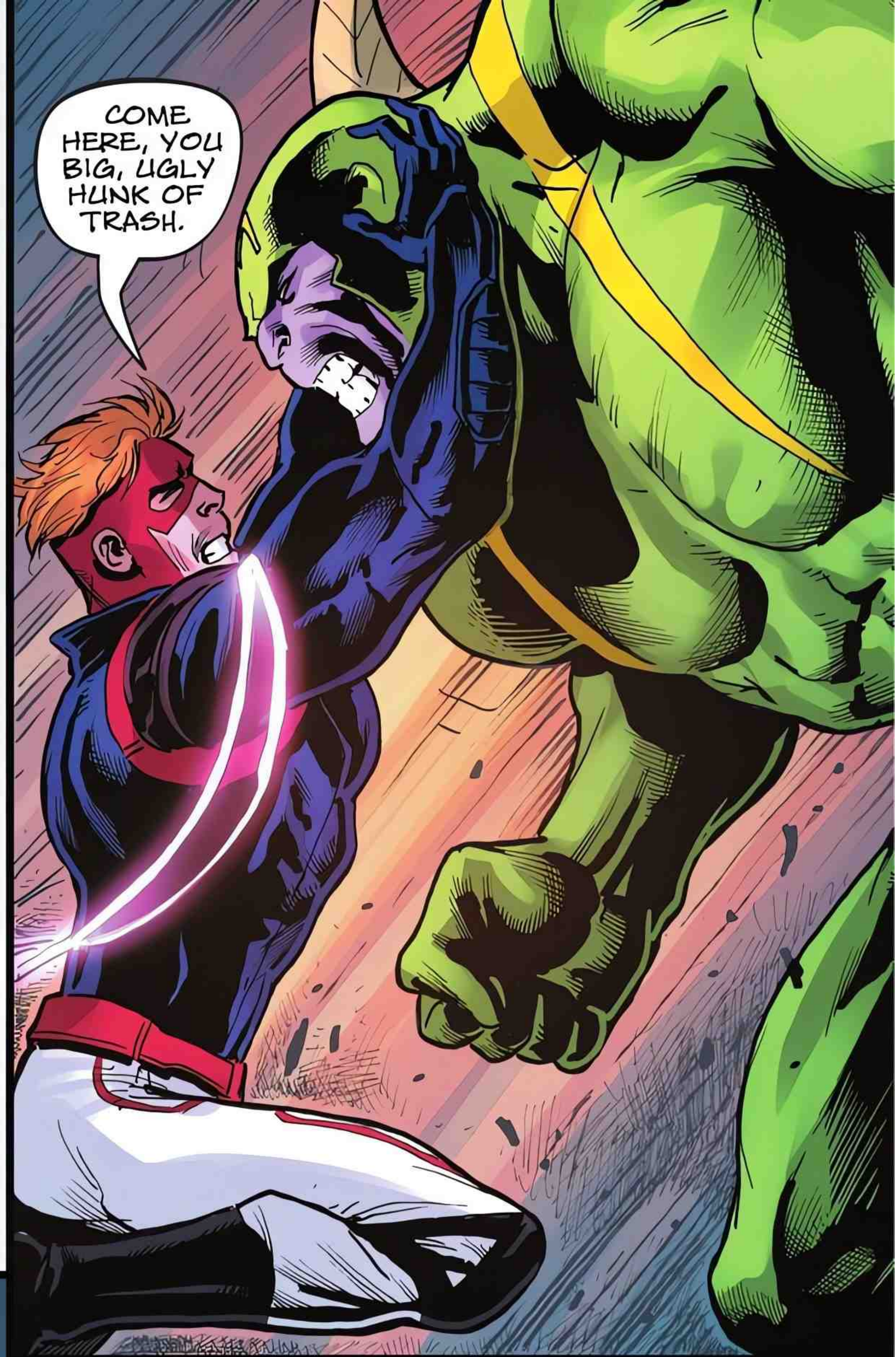
DAMN! WHO
THE HELL ARE
THESE PEOPLE
AGAIN?

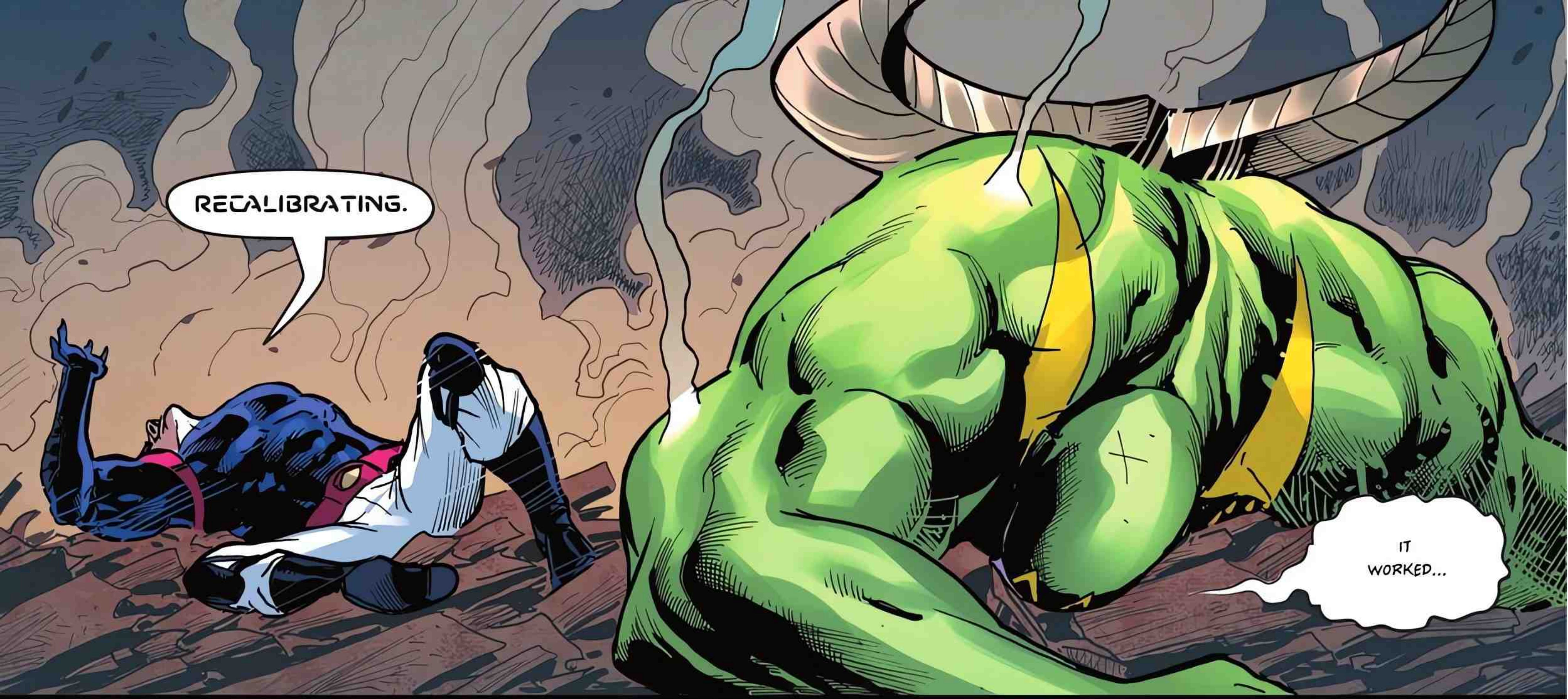
BAD
GUYS.



NO WE'RE NOT!
TAKE THAT BACK.

UMM, KID?
I THINK WE
KINDA ARE.





RECALIBRATING.

IT WORKED...



IT'S OVER, ROBOT.

WHAT IS GOING ON? UNHAND ME, PLEASE.

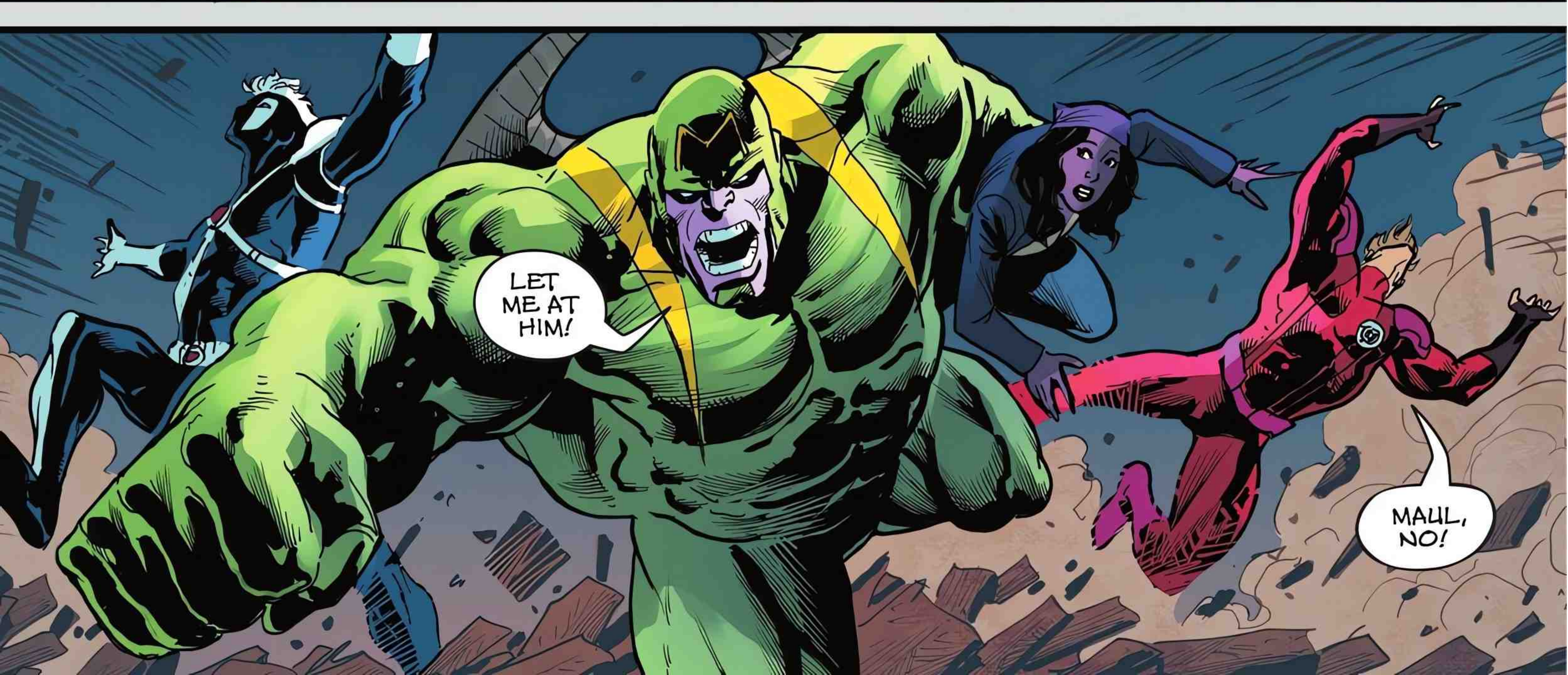


HEY, IT'S ME. WE GOTTA GET YOU OUTTA HERE NOW.

IF YOU'RE CRAY, THEN WHO IS HE?

THE SPARTAN ROBOT. HE'S STILL LOYAL ONLY TO MARLOWE. HE'LL PROTECT YOU. HANG ON.

WHAT--?



LET ME AT HIM!

MAUI, NO!

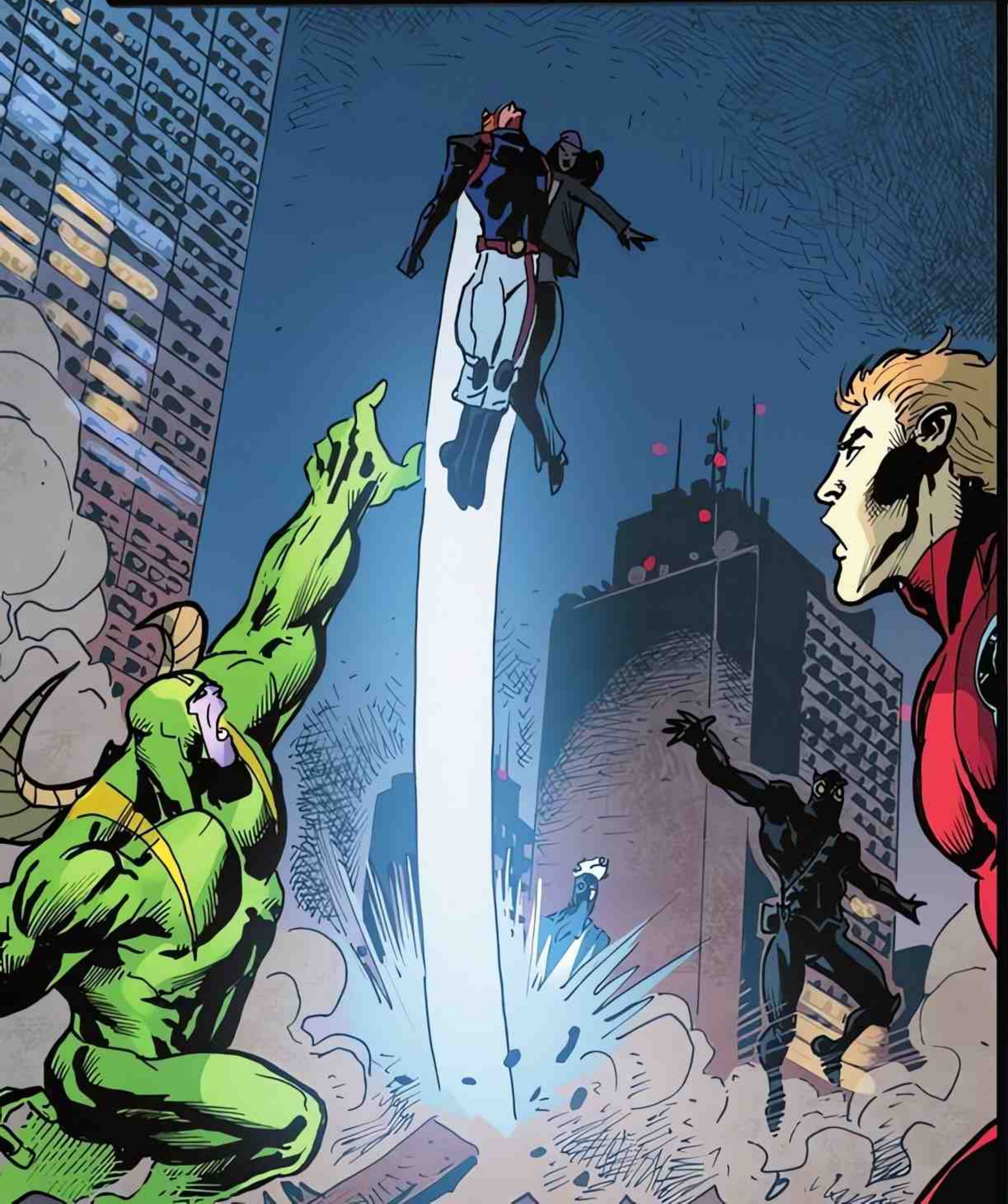


HE'S MINE!

EVERYONE PLEASE REMAIN CALM.



JOHN COLT, MARLOWE IS IN DANGER. THESE MEN ARE TRYING TO KEEP US FROM HIM. YOU MUST TAKE ME TO HIM AT ONCE. PRIORITY CODE--CHERUB.



YOU LET THEM GET AWAY, YOU STUPID MONSTER.

HE WAS TOO FAST.









I KNOW YOU DON'T THINK YOU'RE THE BAD GUY, COLE. YOU HAVE A MORAL CODE. PUT THE GUNS DOWN.

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, BILL. I'VE SEEN ENOUGH VERSIONS OF THE WORLD NOW TO KNOW THAT I VERY MUCH AM THE BAD GUY AND THAT'S OKAY.

SOMETIMES THE WORLD NEEDS A BAD GUY.



COLE? YOU'RE BACK?

HIYA, CAITY. MISS ME?

I GUESS...



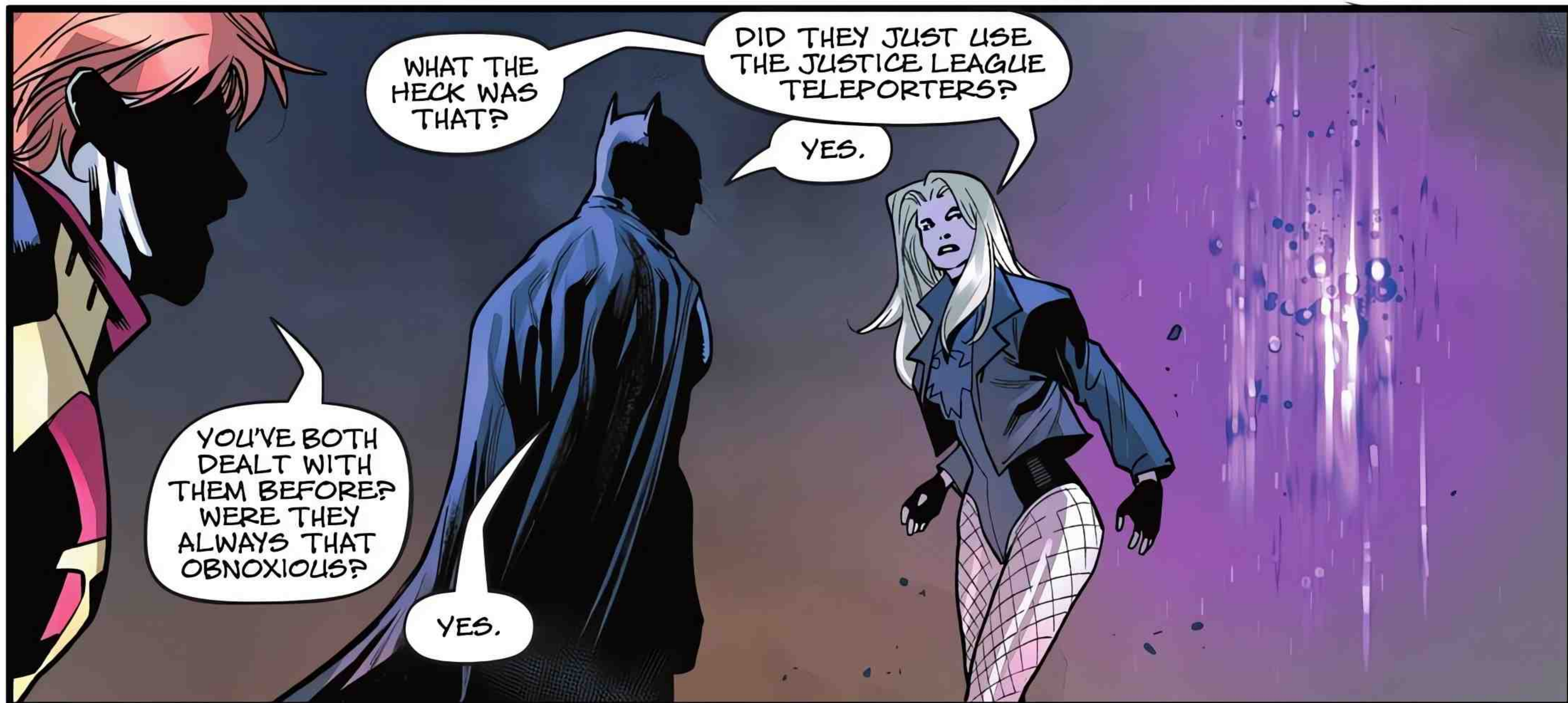
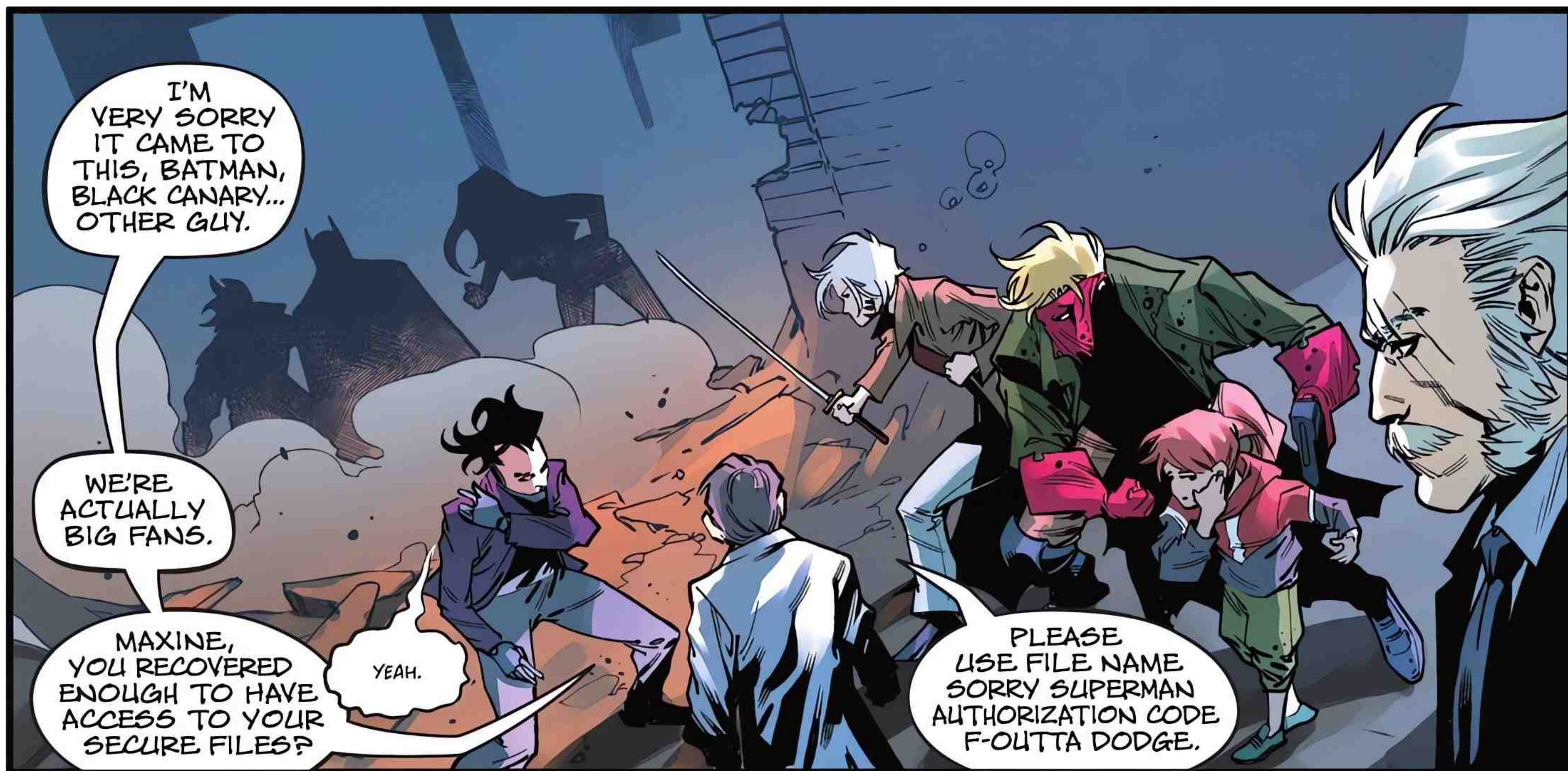
SO WHY DON'T YOU ALL STAND THE @!#\$ DOWN, **BATMAN**, BEFORE I HAVE TO PROVE WHO I AM.

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.



WHAT?! HE'S GOT A HOSTAGE!

WE'RE STANDING DOWN. YOU LET THE CHILD GO.



Cover by
STEPHEN SEGOVIA & ELMER SANTOS
Variant cover by EJIKURE
1:25 variant cover by PAOLO PANTALENA
BEN ABERNATHY editor

WILDCATS
created by
JIM LEE &
BRANDON
CHOI

AN EERIE MELODY HAUNTS THE GOTHAM CITY STREETS...
CAN THE DARK KNIGHT DISCOVER WHAT
SINISTER FORCE IS PLUCKING THE STRINGS?

"Ram V and Albuquerque
weave a delicate dance
between supernatural
horror and superheroics."

—comicbook.com

BATMAN™

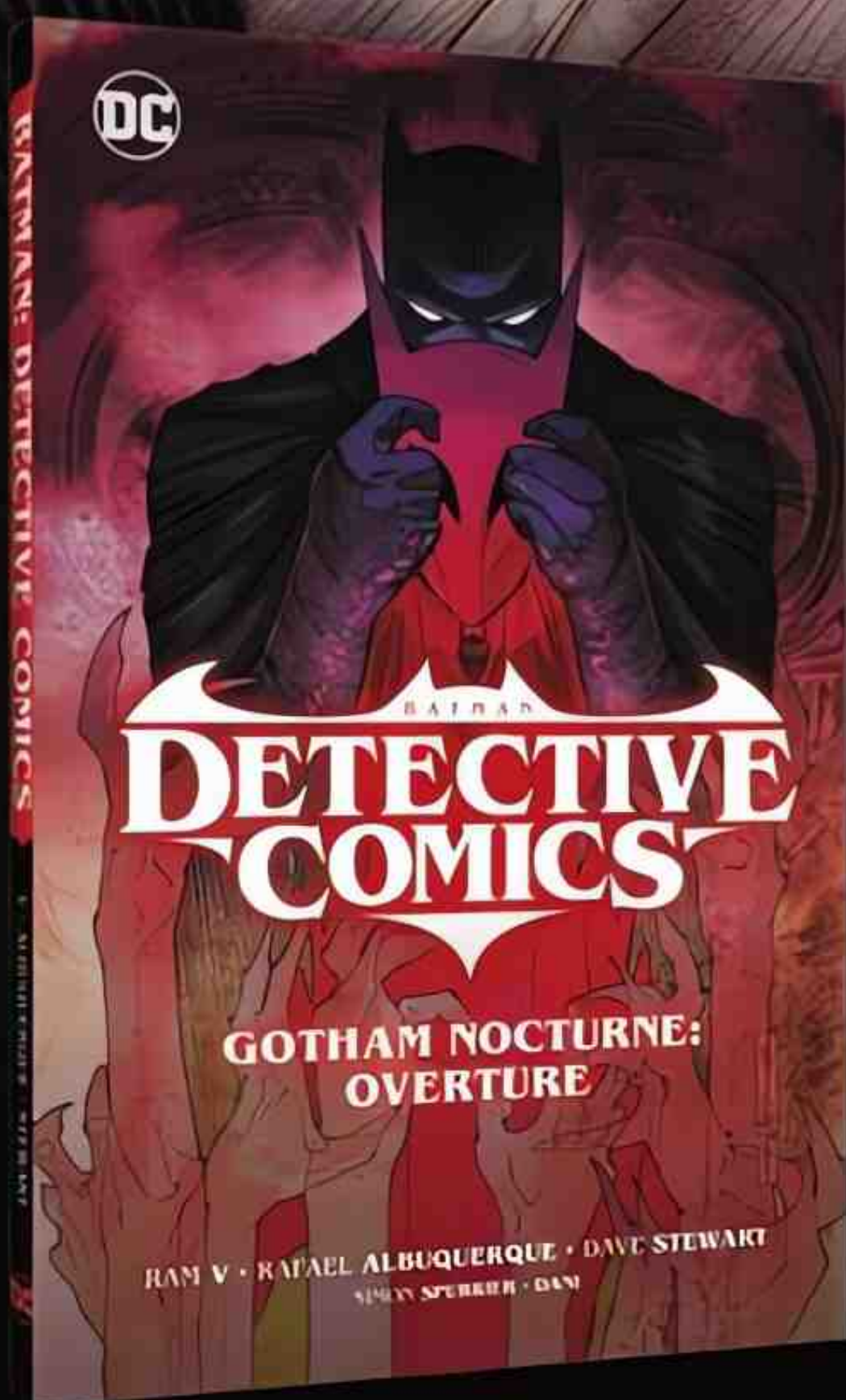
DETECTIVE COMICS™

VOL. 1:

GOTHAM NOCTURNE: OVERTURE

WRITTEN BY
RAM V
WITH SI SPURRIER

ART BY
**RAFAEL
ALBUQUERQUE**
WITH DANI



© & TM DC



AUGUST

GEORGE LOPEZ

RUDY IN

Blue Beetle



What can you tell us about Rudy, your character in the film?

On my last trip to Atlanta, I was in a car and I looked out the window and there was a guy working for the city with about a 10-inch goatee, glasses, long hair, and a city orange vest that had no sleeves, and I thought, man, that's me. I like the idea that we're so quick to judge somebody by the way they look, and Rudy is a bit of a contradiction from the way that he looks.

Why do you think the scarab chose Jaime Reyes as its host?

I think it chose Jaime because it knew that he's a good guy. The scarab chose somebody who would use their powers for good. If you go back into the bug lair and you see Ted Kord's previous Blue Beetle uniforms it was from a guy that had money, was a little bit eccentric, and would create these outfits for himself...but he couldn't fly anywhere.

What can fans expect from Blue Beetle's costume?

You've seen nothing until you've seen the Blue Beetle costume deploy and the pincers retract! It's amazing to see him fly and fight. He operates in a dark blue and black costume, similar to charcoal, which may be the coolest colors of all time. It feels more like a skin than an actual costume. I've seen a lot of bugs in my day, but I've never seen one that looks like that.

How is being a part of Blue Beetle meaningful to you?

As an actor, I've been fortunate enough to have done stand-up for a long time, had my own show named after me, and a number of other incredible things in my career. However, I would have hated to not be involved in this project. If I wasn't cast in this movie it would've been heartbreaking in a sense, but I'm honored to be a part of it. To know that you're specifically chosen to be in this great project, and give life to a guy like Rudy, is beyond an honor.



IN THEATERS AUGUST 18!

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